



THE THATCHAM POSTMARK

THATCHAM and DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY
WESTBEX EDITION APRIL 2019



The Chairmans Report

Yet another excellent Westbex even though we could only use the main hall. There were well over 100 visitors and most of the dealers had a good day.

Many thanks to our club members for their time and effort in making the event such a good success.

Thank you to all those who helped with the setting up on the Friday evening and with the clearing away afterwards.

Thank you to the Westbex committee of Graeme for all the dealers and bookings and to Martin for the publicity, signage and programmes.

To Ann Martin who once again organised a great raffle and sold the tickets for us and also to Jean who 'manned' the front desk with Ann for the whole day giving out the programmes with Graeme and selling lots more raffle tickets. Many thanks to all three and to those who donated raffle prizes.

We just could not hold the event without all of your assistance.

Barney Bardsley, Chairman

Year 53

Issue 144

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The Front of House Receptionists
Graeme, Ann and Jean

For further information on anything in this newsletter please contact

Martin Farr, Editor

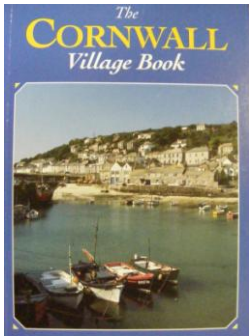
Tel 01635 866437

or

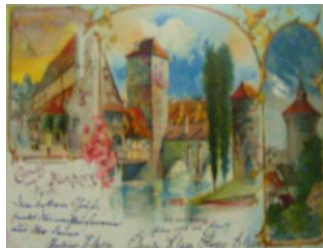
Graeme Stewart, Secretary

Tel 01635 866942

Photo Gallery



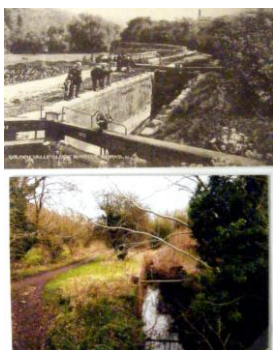
Bob's book



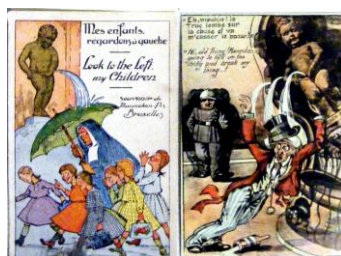
Lovely 'Court' cards



Cockeyed messages



Canal old and new



Le Manneken Pis



The early general Post Office



Animals too!



Laotian covers



Language stamps



Chester Roman Rule



Fiscal Stamps



U.S. Presidents on cards



Early Punch comedy cards



46th Congress 1964 Bournemouth



34th Congress 1952 Southampton

PAST EVENTS

Monday 7th January

Malcolm Hoskins was unable to 'Entertain' as he was not very well. Graeme contacted many of us to bring along something to 'show and tell'. The response was great.

Martin Farr started it off with the famous Chinese story "Romance of the Three Kingdoms" illustrated with some lovely sheets of stamps and covers about how, in the Han dynasty, China was in chaos splitting into three kingdoms and how, many years later, it was re-united to become the Jin dynasty. A wonderful story and lovely sheets.

Neil Hatton then showed quite a few Victorian pictorial 'Court' cards which were smaller and squarer than these days. Then several sheets of coloured 'court' cards from Germany "Grus aus Bielefeld" were some of them and also from Hamburg and Nuremburg. Lovely styles and colours of the 1890's showing buildings, landmarks and rivers.

Bob Paterson was next and he showed us Peterson Postcards, Postage material and Places of Cornwall many with squared circle cancels. We did not know there were so many places in Cornwall starting with the letter 'P' although many were Port something. A great display Bob with two lovely books as well.

Alan Cross then displayed a great collection of 1d red stamps – shades, varieties, printing styles and paper types, lovely sheet of shade guides, die I and die II issues, plate styles and flaws. Then a sheet of the orange/yellow 4d issues and he finished with some nice art cards and their stamps. A lovely display.

Mike Smith started part 2 with 'Stellaland and its Stamps' - The history and stories of South Africa from 1860-90, its regions, republics, states and countries and how they developed. He continued with Bechuanaland where he lived and the places he visited. An interesting talk.

Andrew Gore was next and he spoke about Malaysian issues from the early days to the present and showed us 19 almost complete issue sets from there. What a nice collection

Then we all went home.

Thursday 17th January 'Postcards Evening' Bring and show what you collect.

Nathan Gregory started us off with a collection of Parliament buildings, the Royal Family and WWI cards of guns and batteries from Flanders. Then he showed some of his Mum's cards of local scenes and villages of his family history. A nice collection.

Dave Tanner was next and he showed modern cards of the 10th and 11th Royal Hussars as he served with them for several years – full dress uniforms and great musicians too. He finished with Persian cards, all privately produced, of ancient cities and people.

John Tingey then showed many sheets of his wonderful puzzle pictures and cards that asked questions and had to be twisted at angles to find the answers. Amazing! Cards that carried messages and lots that showed the language of cards via lovely pictures of fruits, flowers and meats. What an interesting display.

Juliet Keel showed cards from her extensive collection. Message cards with lovely illustrations from 1905-ish Local area and regional cards, most having great messages on their backs. She finished off with cards from the 'front'. Where does she get them all from?

To finish off part 1 **Martin Farr** showed postcards from where they had visited – Israel and the Holy places, Tokyo and the shrines and palaces, and finished off with long scenic cards of Masada, Qumran, the Dead Sea and shrines and temples of Egypt. Nice.

Malcolm Hoskins started part two with postcards of London from his large collection. Then cards of the War Office, military railway stations, the Albert Hall, Kew gardens and many more. So interesting. He must show the full collection some time.

Ian Keel showed National Congress data cards. Some were of copper sheets, some of leather and thin wood. Others were on embossed paper, thin cork and birch bark! What a strange set of media to write on!

Barney Bardsley was next and he showed us WWI silks, thought to be hand embroidered, but probably on an embroidery machine, sent to and from the troops. The colours still great after all this time. 10 million were actually produced ! Then he showed a nice set of cards on canals and locks (one of

his most favourite subjects) with a survey map showing where they all are. Very interesting.

Colin West then showed a few cards - Brussels humorous ones all showing various scenes with 'The Manneken Pis' Very funny. He finished with a great set of colourful old cards.

Paul Watkins showed us old postcards from the early 19th C that were sent by balloon, some home made ones and sets of nice small 'Court' cards. Then cards negated by the P.O. because either they were too large or wrongly addressed. Then some surcharged cards, strange sized ones and he finished with some large panorama cards. A nice collection.

Graeme Stewart finished the afternoon with cards of Shaw House and places in Newbury – Cold Ash hill, the Ridge, the old Childrens Hospital(now gone) and then some comical cards to finish off.

What an interesting afternoon we had

Monday 4th February and the theme for today was 'Valentine'. 13 members present.

Graeme Stewart started the afternoon by showing postcards printed by 'Valentine and Sons' all of local areas around Newbury and then several romantic cards. The some novelty Valentine cards from 1900-20 advertising the attractions of Newbury.

Martin Farr was next and he showed the Chinese story about the cow herder and the heavenly weaver princess who wove the clouds. She came to earth to bathe! (no showers in heaven) met Nuilangi, married and had 2 children. All this time no cloud weaving and so no rain – corresponds with a severe drought in China in 2ndC. Imperial mother called her back and scratched the Milky Way across the sky to separate them. Above it is Vega (the weaver princess) and below is Altair (Nuilangi) flanked by 2 small stars – the children. Once a year, on the 7th day of the 7th month (Chinese Valentines day) they meet up in heaven.

At half time we had decided on the Monday topics until the Monday Cup competition in July.

Dave Tanner started the second half with lots of issues of Valentine stamps from France. Then sheets from Taiwan, Palau and Slovenia. He then showed some nice Iranian issues and a lovely mini sheet showing lots of goldfish.

Mike Smith showed some very old black and white cards sent by his grandfather to his enamorata who became his grandmother. Then cards showing various Indian women that he sent to his love from 1890 onwards. He served in India and South Africa in the Boer war and when he returned home and they got married. What a lovely collection for the family and for us to see.

Neil Hatton finished the displays for us by showing 'Tongue in Cheek' Valentine cards . All quite saucy and some very funny indeed.

Thursday 21st February 'Recent Acquisitions' and there were 17 members present

Barney Bardsley showed a nice picture sheet, a great boxed medal and the 1939 treasury competition and sheets showing the design of the 1d black.

Alan Cross displayed some GV material exhibited at the Royal Society and his nice postage dues he also showed at the exhibition.

Dave Tanner showed lots of PHQ card sets from club stamps and some nice nostalgia postcards which were recently acquired for the club.

Bob Paterson showed quite a few sheets of his Ryukyu issues and various covers from around the world. Then he showed some military mail hand stamped postage dues.

Paul Watkins showed GB 'late mail', a picture of the General Post Office after 6pm, (postage cost more after 6pm! Some late letters to France and prisoners on parole in UK, post to and from France.

Jeffrey Rogers showed sheets and covers of 1/2d Reds. Then cards of the Cheshire region and a lovely sheet of two covers to celebrate 2000 years of Roman rule – from Rome and Chester.

Colin West then showed some postcards of holograms on banknotes and credit cards and also on postcards from the USA and Canada. Some showing the UN building in New York and footballers.

Andrew Gore showed some sheets of postmarks from Indian Federated states, probably all forgeries, and a great collection of Postal Printed Impressions all from South Africa.

Sorry about the condensation but Westbex space required.

Monday 4th March `Malcolm Hoskins Entertains` with 17 members present

Malcolm started collecting USA fiscal stamps just 6 months ago and showed us a selection of Presidents on playing cards with fiscal stamps. The Queens are four of their famous married ladies. Then he showed us lots of sheets of lovely very early Punch Magazine comical cards from about 1915 onwards. The dark brown images on the cards do look so nice.

These were followed by sheets of mistakes and errors on stamps plus some forgeries and then sheets of GV Downey heads and Jubilee issues and the Christmas issues with the missing `T`.

These were followed by British tree PHQ cards, one of a large horse chestnut and, to finish part 1, a great large photograph of Stirling Moss in his racing car and personally signed by him to Malcolm.

Malcolm continues his `Trail of Rubbish` for part 2 by showing a lovely series of Philatelic Congress sheets. The Congress started in 1909 in Manchester and year by year went to different city locations. Malcolm has quite a collection of these great sheets and is always after more to complete the full set but they are hard to find.

What fantastic collections of subjects Malcolm has. A great afternoon.

Thursday 21st March `The 1890 Penny Post Jubilee` with John Davies



John Davies



His first Acquisitions



Illustrated London News



Edison Bell Exhibition

Invitation to Conversazione

Jubilee card of July 2nd 1890

Lots of 8-Star Cancellations



The Victorian celebration of the Conversazione and Exhibition at the Guildhall kicked off in 1890 with a dinner for 100 officers of the post office and the invitations that were sent out were just amazing. Thousands of people attended the exhibitions and one could see how the mail was dealt with from reception to delivery. John spoke about his first acquisition on this interesting subject which was a quite expensive 1d black Jubilee card, and next came some great illustrations from the Illustrated London News. John showed very interesting sheets of all the data and letter cards that were sold for charity at 6d each. (quite expensive). They were so popular that they were all sold out on the day and some more had to be printed. John then talked about the origins of the 8-pointed star rubber hand-stamp that was used for months afterwards and then showed many sheets of the Guildhall metal hand-stamp cancellations.

For part two John showed sheets of the Grand Opening Ceremony with Royalty in attendance.

These were followed by many sheets of early registered mail covers and issues of special money orders and cards that were issued for the `tube` connections (Remember the tube systems that Camp Hopson`s used to have for the invoices and monies paid?). Then he showed sheets of appreciation cards and examples of the envelopes and wrappers used followed by some illegal issues by a Mr Elliot.

John finished off with a full board of Jubilee Envelopes that were only issued for one day.

Well – what a great and interesting subject that not many people knew about. John was a great speaker with wonderful material and he made it all so interesting. Thank you John.

WESTBEX PAGES



The Westbex Raffle was again well organised and run by Anne. Thank you so much for all your hard work. The Raffle prizes and winners were as follows:-

1 st prize	£100	Timothy Hayward
2 nd prize	Bottle of Whiskey	Bob Paterson
3 rd prize	Stock Book	John Findlater
4 th prize	Bottle of Wine	Ian Clare
5 th prize	Bottle of Wine	The Mayor of Thatcham
6 th prize	Stock Book	Zoe Clinch
7 th prize	Bottle of wine	Sue Bachelor

The National Philatelic Society

Only four people turned up for the meeting and just two of them displayed material.

Martin Farr showed and talked about `The Mutiny on the Bounty` and Alan Thompson of the Society showed a good collection of ancient and modern American stamp issues which were nice to see.

The Thames Valley Philatelic Federation 9-sheet competition results.**Traditional Class**

1 st	Ian King	Henley	Argentina ministry of agriculture O/prints
2 nd	David Walker	Wokingham	Mexico, Postal stationery

Postal History Class

1 st	Alan Druce	Henley	Traditional mail of uniform penny postage
2 nd	Tony Simmons	Maidenhead	Civilian use of the British Army Base post office 1919-20
3 rd	Malcolm Gascoine	Henley	Ecuador, Intro. of Uniform Post 1862-72
4 th	Nathan Gregory	Thatcham	Privilege of Peers and Parliamentarians

Thematic Class

1 st	Ann Stammers	Henley	Rocks to Riches
2 nd	Mike Payne	Oxford	Charles Lindbergh and the Spirit of St Louis

Open Class

1 st	Tony Stanford	Maidenhead	Matabeleland, Tati and Gubulawayo
2 nd	Trevor Cornford	Wokingham	Sir Ernest Shackletons Nimrod Antarctic Voyage 1907-8
3 rd	Martin Farr	Thatcham	Japan – The Tokaido Road
4 th	Bob Paterson	Thatcham	A Day of Infamy

Aerophilately Class

1 st	Alan Cowie	Oxford	Usage of the Ashinoko Air Mail stamps of Japan
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Cinderella Class

1 st	David Potts	Oxford	Childrens newspaper Railway Poster stamps of 1935
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USEFUL WEBSITES

Tony Bray for World new issues at www.tonybray.co.uk

Royal Mail for all past and new issues at www.royalmail.com

The society website with lots of data and links at www.tdps.co.uk

Avion Thematics – one of the best organised sites at www.avionstamps.com

****The Avion website now incorporates the stock listings for Phoenix International****

Portsmouth stamp shop for awkward items and covers at www.portsmouthstampshop.co.uk

A.B.P.S for all the latest philatelic news, events and links at www.abps.org.uk

THE BACK PAGE

“Club Stamps” corner

Club Stamps are well looked after by **Dave Tanner** who will be present at most of our club meetings. There will usually be a Club Table at all stamp fairs held at the Memorial Hall.

Accessories

Dave is also the contact for the purchase of all philatelic accessories – most of which are available to be ordered at a small discount.

Stamps of the World Catalogue set (normal price - £200) – TDPS price £155 + p&p

Collect British stamps (normal price - £12.95) – TDPS price £10 + p&p

GB Concise (normal price - £30) – TDPS price £23.50 + p&p

A small percentage always goes to club funds. Give Dave a ring on 01256 780467

Future Programme and Events

Monday	1 st April	`Fools` Members to decide who etc.
Thursday	18 th April	`Coaches and Coach Horns` presented by the Tootler
Sat/Sun	26/27 April	Southern England Stamp Show Bracknell Leisure Centre
Monday	29 th April	Around the Mediterranean
Thursday	15 th May	Philatelic Halves with Malcolm Hoskins and Nathan Gragory
Monday	3 rd June	Airways
Thursday	20 th June	Mini Auction of Club Material
Saturday	22 nd June	Stamp Fair at the Memorial Hall, Thatcham
Monday	1 st July	The Monday Cup, a Quiz and Cinderella issues to bring. Evening visit to Petersfield, Hampshire.

Officers of the Club

President	John Baron	01933 650092
Chairman	Barney Bardsley	0777 0376 235
Vice Chair	Still vacant	
Secretary	Graeme Stewart	01635 866942
Treasurer	Mike Ward	01635 864307

Committee

Colin Bartholomew	01635 865457
Neil Hatton	01635 280639
Mike Smith	01189 864307

Archivist	Still Need One	WestBex	Graeme, Martin and Ann	Publicity	Martin Farr
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